

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

IN THE MATTER OF THE LEGISLATIVE)	
PETITION FOR REVIEW AND)	
RECOMMENDATIONS ON)	PSC DOCKET NO. 13-250
DELMARVA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY)	
UTILITY BILL TRANSPARENCY)	
(FILED JUNE 20, 2013))	

ORDER NO. 8819

AND NOW, this 4th day of February, 2016;

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2013, Representative John Kowalko and State Senators Dave Lawson and Gary Simpson, on behalf of nineteen other members of the Delaware General Assembly, filed a Petition (the "Petition") requesting the Delaware Public Service Commission (the "Commission") to open a docket to review the appropriate level of detail contained in monthly billing statements prepared by Delmarva Power & Light Company ("Delmarva" or the "Company") and sent to its customers; and

WHEREAS, the Petition alleged that customers of Delmarva do not know how much they are being charged each month for various legislatively-mandated initiatives such as the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards, the Qualified Fuel Cell Provider ("QFCP") project, the Low Income Assistance and others; and

WHEREAS, the Commission's general authority under Title 26 of the Delaware Code provides it the right and responsibility to investigate any issue involving the transparency of charges associated with compliance with legislative mandates included in utility customers' bills; and

WHEREAS, at its regularly scheduled meeting on July 2, 2013, the Commission opened this docket for the purposes of conducting a review to determine the appropriate level of detail regarding the charges associated with legislative mandates that should be included on Delmarva customers' electric bills; and

WHEREAS, the Commission also ordered appropriate public notice of the opening of this docket and allowed interested parties to intervene in order to commence a working group to report back to the Commission on its recommendations regarding utility bill transparency related to Delmarva and its customer billing system; and

WHEREAS, the working group met on October 22, 2013, November 19, 2013, and April 10, 2014 to discuss the issues relating to the appropriate level of detail that should be included on Delmarva's monthly billing statements; and

WHEREAS, Delmarva presented at the April 10, 2014 workshop a proposal that would segment the docket into two phases, proposing that initially, in Phase I that three (3) items that had previously been included in the Distribution Charge of the customer's bill be listed separately as: (1) the Low Income Charge (2) Green Energy Fund; and (3) Renewable Compliance Charge, with an implementation date of July 1, 2014, which the Commission approved in PSC Order No. 8556 (April 29, 2014); and

WHEREAS, Phase II of this docket required the parties to reconvene at a later date to determine which, if any, additional charges could be further broken out after Delmarva's conversion to

its new Solution One billing system; and

WHEREAS, after the completion of two working group sessions in Phase II of this docket, the Commission met at a regularly-scheduled meeting on December 3, 2015 to consider the Case Manager's Memorandum of October 15, 2015 (the "Memorandum"), his recommendations, as well as the comments from some of the parties in the proceeding to the Memorandum, and, after deliberating in open session, ordered that the monthly amount that customers pay for compliance with Delaware's Renewable Portfolio Compliance Act identified on customer's bills as the "Renewable Compliance Charge" should be further broken down into two categories: (a) the amount that customers are incurring for more traditional sources of renewable energy; and (b) the amount that customers are incurring for the Qualified Fuel Cell Program ("QFCP") (See Order No. 8835, dated December 15, 2015); and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2016, pursuant to Order No. 8835, Delmarva made a compliance filing (the "Compliance Filing") with the Commission, determining that of the two suggested options recommended by the Commission in its prior order, that "Option A" was preferable because it would only involve modifications to the line item field of Delmarva's billing system, rather than "Option B" which would be more time consuming and costly as described in its Compliance Filing. (See Compliance Filing, ¶ 5);¹ and

WHEREAS, Delmarva further indicates that it will take several

¹ The Commission directed Delmarva to add either: (a) two additional lines to its electrical customers' bill -- one line containing the monthly QFCP charge, the other line the remaining components of the Renewable Compliance Charge ("Option A"); or (b) a one line descriptive note at the bottom of the bill that separately identifies the monthly QFCP charge ("Option B"). (See Order No. 8835, ¶ 1, page 3).

months to reprogram and test the changes, as well as educate its customers regarding the changes to Delmarva's electric bills; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has reviewed Delmarva's Compliance Filing and believes that it comports with the directions made in the Order No. 8835;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF
NOT FEWER THAN THREE COMMISSIONERS:**

1. That the Commission directs Delmarva to implement the Option A revisions to its monthly electric bill as set forth in its Compliance Filing, including the billing note set forth in paragraph 6 of the filing.

2. That the Commission further directs the necessary programming, testing and customer education be completed such that bills will begin showing the new line items beginning with the May 2016 billing cycle.

3. That this docket shall be considered closed as of the date of this Order.

4. That the Commission reserves the jurisdiction and authority to enter such further Orders in this matter as may be deemed necessary and proper.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chair

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Secretary